

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests entry of this Amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims. Applicant affirms the restriction response and cancels claims 1-28, 31-32. Claim 42 is added. Claims 29 and 33-42 are currently pending.

Claims 34-36 are amended to address the claim objections and rejections.

Claim 29 was rejected under 35 USC § 103 over Berger et al in view of Grate, Abraham, McGill. Claim 29, as amended, is not disclosed, taught or reasonably suggested in any single cited reference, or in the combination of cited references, for the reasons cited below.

Applicant notes that claim 29 is amended to recite “the first segment has a glass transition greater than or equal to about 23 degrees Celsius and wherein the second segment has a glass transition temperature of less than 23 degrees Celsius”. Applicant notes further that the Office Action explicitly states “Berger also fails to explicitly teach the first segment has a glass transition greater than or equal to about 23 degrees Celsius and the second segment has a glass transition temperature of less than 23 degrees Celsius.”

Finally, Grate, Abraham, McGill do not disclose, and teach away from, the claimed glass transition temperature ranges for the segments. On page 599, the reference discloses:

“... the partition coefficients were determined at elevated temperatures, and are therefore not as useful in connection with chemical sensors to be operated near room temperature. [citations omitted] Moreover, sorption decreases exponentially with increasing temperature, so a sensor whose response is related primarily to the amount of vapor sorbed will become much less sensitive as its operating temperature is raised.”

Clearly, there are many coatings indicated by the reference as shown in Fig. 25.2. None of these coatings appear to be selected such that they fit the criteria defined in claim 29, as amended. The coatings all (with the exception of P4V, itself not a block copolymer) have a glass transition temperature that is less than room temperature. Further, no reason or suggestion is made that would cause one of ordinary skill in the

relevant art to meet the criteria defined in claim 29, as amended. That is, of the examples given, only one has a glass transition temperature greater than room temperature, and it is not a block copolymer. This is coupled with a self-teaching that increasing the glass transition temperature is undesirable.

One of ordinary skill in the relevant art would not be motivated to use the coating as defined in amended claim 29 based on either cited reference as neither reference discloses, teaches or suggests the segment glass transition temperatures. Further, the combination of Berger et al. and Grate, Abraham, McGill does not disclose, and would not teach or reasonably suggest that a polymer (or block copolymer segment) having a glass transition temperature greater than about room temperature would be desirable (or even functional).

New claim 42 is substantively similar to claims 33 and 35 in content and should not require a new search. The remaining claims all depend from an allowable claim 29, and are therefore allowable also.

Applicant submits that the pending claims are allowable over the cited art. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is needed, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number below. Any additional fees for the accompanying response are hereby petitioned for, and the Director is authorized to charge such fees as may be required to Deposit Account 07-0868.

Respectfully submitted,

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